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Evidence of awakened interest in the economic value of birds has just come to us from the most distant of Uncle Sam's possessions, the Philippine Islands. Within the fourteen pages of the bulletin named above, and appearing under the authorship of a former Californian and pioneer member of the Cooper Ornithological Club, is to be found proof that interest is turning more and more toward the economic aspect of ornithology. The introduction asserts that the greatest value of birds is to be found in their "efficient control of weeds, snakes, small mammals such as rats and mice, and insects that eat and destroy plants and trees." The inclusion of snakes as pests to be destroyed would hardly find a place in a similar work in the United States, a point suggesting the marked difference in conditions existing in the temperate zone and in the tropics. The introduction further points out that the purpose of the bulletin is to suggest how the value of birds may be recognized, and the more important benefits be derived, through popular appreciation of wild birds and an increased interest in them. A short resume of the work done by the United States Biological Survey is followed by a discussion of certain groups of birds whose food habits make them of interest to the Philippine agriculturist. Only general statements as to the probable nature of the food are given. The one bird considered of no use "about a farm house or cocoanut grove" is the crow.

The following recommendations as means to the end sought are advanced: The attracting of birds by means of food, water, and nesting boxes; the destruction of natural enemies such as cats; the protection of insectivorous birds from gunners and trappers; and the formation of a society, similar to the Audubon Society, for the protection of birds. The keeping of poultry is also recommended as a means of controlling locusts.

If the bulletin had been intended as a contribution to knowledge it would have been of little significance; for it is largely a collection of general facts regarding the relation of birds to agriculture gleaned from economic papers published elsewhere, and is lacking in definite data as to local conditions. The evident fact that the paper was designed purely to arouse interest in the subject of economic ornithology among the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands

places it in a different and wholly favorable light. It should also be noted that this bulletin is preliminary to definite work on the food of Philippine birds along the lines of that carried on by the United States Biological Survey.—HAROLD C. BRYANT.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

### NORTHERN DIVISION

DECEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, Thursday evening, December 16, 1915, at 8 p. m. President Joseph Mailliard was in the chair with the following members present: Mesdames Allen, Grinnell and Schlisinger, Misses Culver and Wythe, and Messrs. Bryant, Bolander, Carriger, Evermann, Hubbs, Storer and Taylor. Among the visitors were Mrs. Taylor and Messrs. Ferris and Martens.

The minutes of the Northern Division November meeting were read and approved and the minutes of the Southern Division and Inter-Mountain Chapter for November were read. The following were elected to membership: H. W. Daniels, Mrs. Sophie E. Gay, and Mrs. Adele Lewis Grant. The following proposals for membership were read: Miss Edna A. Hannibal, R. F. D. no. 1, San Jose, proposed by J. O. Snyder; Harold E. Hansen, 870 43d Ave., San Francisco, proposed by Tracy I. Storer; and Curtis Wright, Jr., 6436 Benvenue Ave., Berkeley, proposed by H. C. Bryant. Also the names proposed at the Southern Division November meeting were read.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Henry W. Henshaw, Chief of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, thanking the Club for its recent action in electing him to honorary membership.

Nominations for officers of the Division for the coming year resulted as follows: President, Tracy I. Storer; Vice-president, H. W. Carriger; Secretary, Mrs. A. S. Allen.

H. C. Bryant, as Game Expert of the California Fish and Game Commission, stated that the Commission was considering the placing of the American and Snowy egrets on the list of prohibited birds mentioned in collectors' licenses and stated that the Commission would appreciate any recommendations which the Club might make along this line. After some discussion it was decided upon motion by Mr. Bryant to have the

President appoint a committee of three to consider the matter, and that this committee would be permitted to make recommendations to the Commission without first reporting to the Division. The committee comprises: W. P. Taylor, chairman, J. Grinnell, and T. I. Storer.

Business being disposed of, the Division listened to a talk by Mr. Joseph Grinnell on "The Distributional Behavior of Some Birds in the Yosemite Region". The speaker brought out the complementary nature of the ranges of a number of groups of Fringillidae and then displayed a series of lantern slides showing photographs of various birds of the Yosemite region. Adjourned.—TRACY I. STORER, *Secretary*.

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, January 20, 1916, at 8 p. m. President Joseph Mailliard was in the chair with the following members present: Mesdames Allen, Grinnell, Klugel and Schlisinger, the Misses Atterbury, Culver, Gunn, Swezy and Wythe, and Messrs. Bryant, Carriger, Daniels, Dixon, Grinnell, H. E. Hansen, Kendall, Newberry, Storer, W. P. Taylor, Wheeler, and Wright. Mesdames Dixon, Newberry and Stone were among the visitors present.

The minutes of the December, 1915, Northern Division meeting were read and approved, and those of the Southern Division and Inter-mountain Chapter were read. The following were elected to membership: Miss Edna A. Hannibal, Harold E. Hansen, Curtis Wright, Jr., and seven persons proposed at the Southern Division in November, 1915. Applications for membership were received as follows: Miss Alice F. Crane, 314 Cherry St., San Francisco, and Miss Augusta H. Blanchard, 246 Perry St., Oakland, both proposed by Miss Susan B. Culver; Mrs. Charles S. Newhall, 2629 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley, proposed by Mrs. Jas. T. Allen; also six applications received at the Southern Division December 1915 meeting.

Resignations were read and accepted from L. R. Kessing and Miss Louise LeBris. Dr. Walter P. Taylor presented his resignation as Chairman of the Permanent Committee on Conservation of Wild Life and as Cooper Club representative on the Executive Committee of the California Associated Societies for the Conservation of Wild Life, to date from February 20. The resignation was accepted.

The Secretary read part of a letter from Mr. Chambers urging all Club members to participate in an attempt to increase the membership roll. The special committee appointed at the December meeting reported that it has recommended to the California Fish and Game Commission that in the interests of conservation scientific collectors be denied the privilege of collecting the American and Snowy Egrets. Mr. Joseph Grinnell was nominated for Editor of *THE CONDOR* during 1916, and Messrs. W. Lee Chambers and J. Eugene Law as Business Managers. On motion by Mr. Wright it was declared the sense of those present that the Division should meet in San Francisco in the near future.

Election of officers resulted as follows: President, Tracy I. Storer; Vice-President, H. W. Carriger; Secretary, Mrs. Jas. T. Allen.

The program of the evening was then presented. Mr. W. C. Newberry gave an interesting account of the "Nesting Habits of the Wren-tit", based upon intensive observations made in Berkeley during April, 1915. Mr. R. S. Wheeler gave an interesting account of "Oological Collecting Experiences on the Gila River in April, 1915", and showed a number of slides illustrative of the region visited. Adjourned.—TRACY I. STORER, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, February 17, 1916, at 8 p. m. President Tracy I. Storer was in the chair, with the following members present: Mesdames Allen, Ferguson, Grant, Grinnell, Kluegel, Schlisinger; Misses Crane, Culver, Gunn, Miller, Wythe; Messrs. Anderson, Bade, Bolander, Carriger, Evermann, Grinnell, Hansen, Lastreto, Joseph Mailliard, Ohl, Rankin, Ray, Swarth and Wright. Mrs. Anderson, Miss Davidson, Mr. Jacobsen, Mrs. Swarth, Miss Newlon, Mr. Schlisinger and Mr. Snow were among the visitors present.

The minutes of the January, 1916, Northern Division meeting were read and approved. The following were elected to membership: Miss Alice F. Crane, Miss Augusta Blanchard, Mrs. Charles S. Newhall, and six persons proposed at the Southern Division meeting in December, 1915. Mrs. Nellie C. Knappen, 2844 Webster St., Berkeley, was proposed for membership by Mrs. J. T. Allen.

A report of the finances of the Club, rendered by the business managers, Messrs. Chambers and Law, was read by Mr. Grinnell. The report was accepted and placed on file, and on motion of Mr. Mailliard a committee of two was appointed by the President to draw up a resolution expressing the Division's appreciation of the efficient and self-sacrificing services of Messrs. Chambers and Law in conducting the business of the Club. Mr. Mailliard and Dr. W. F. Bade were appointed on this committee.

The President announced that at the request of the other two officers of the Division he had assumed the work which Dr. Taylor had been obliged to give up in resigning from his position as Chairman of the Permanent Committee on Conservation of Wild Life and as Cooper Club representative on the Executive Committee of the California Associated Societies for the Conservation of Wild Life.

By unanimous vote of the Club, Mr. Grinnell was re-elected Editor of *THE CONDOR*, and Messrs. Chambers and Law as Business Managers.

The business of the evening having been disposed of, Mr. Mailliard presented a very interesting account of the "Gulls at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition", illustrated by skins and by a large number of lantern slides, which showed the increasing tameness of the different species, and their surprising attitudes as caught by the camera.

Dr. Bade reported that two Mockingbirds had been seen repeatedly during the winter in Berkeley. Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary*.

#### INTER-MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

DECEMBER.—The Inter-Mountain Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club, met at Salt Lake City, Utah, December 14, 1915, at the residence of A. O. Treganza. Meeting called to order at 8:30 P. M., Vice-President J. A. Mullen presiding, and the following members in attendance: A. D. Boyle, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mullen, J. Sugden, Jr., J. Sugden, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Treganza. Minutes of November meeting read and approved.

The evening was spent in a study of local breeding shore birds, and looking over the Treganza series of oological specimens of this family. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 P. M.—MRS. A. O. TREGANZA, *Secretary*.

JANUARY.—The Inter-Mountain Chapter

of the Cooper Ornithological Club, met at Salt Lake City, Utah, January 11, 1916, in the office of Dr. D. Moore Lindsay, Boston Building. Meeting called to order at 8:30 P. M., with President Chambers in the chair. Minutes of the December meeting read and approved. Members in attendance were: Prof. J. H. Paul, A. D. Boyle, J. Sugden, Jr. and Sr., Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mullen, Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Treganza, Fred W. Chambers, Dr. D. Moore Lindsay.

The business of the evening consisted in voting a change of meeting night, as the second Tuesday of the month made it impossible for many of the members to be present. Motion made by J. A. Mullen, seconded A. D. Boyle, that meeting night be changed to the second Wednesday of the month. Passed.

President Chambers gave a very interesting talk on game sanctuaries he was endeavoring to create; also summarizing work that had been done in those already established.

Professor J. H. Paul spoke of his projected plans presented to the school board broadening the scope of bird study in the public schools.

Mrs. A. O. Treganza read a poem "The Sage Thrasher", by R. H. Palmer of Pocatello, Idaho.

President Chambers extended an invitation to the club to visit his fish hatcheries in the immediate future. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P. M.—MRS. A. O. TREGANZA, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.—The Inter-Mountain Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club, met at Salt Lake City, Utah, February 9, 1916, at the residence of J. Sugden. Meeting assembled at 8:30 P. M., with Vice-President Mullen in the chair. Members in attendance were: Dr. D. Moore Lindsay, J. Sugden, J. Sugden, Jr., Prof. J. H. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Treganza, A. D. Boyle, J. A. Mullen; visitors were Miss Jeremy and Mrs. A. D. Boyle. Minutes of the January meeting read and approved.

A most enjoyable evening was spent in looking over the entomological and oological collections of Mr. Sugden and his son, listening to their highly interesting account of the metamorphoses of insect life, and explanations of many tropical and foreign species. Later the members adjourned to the dining room where Mrs. Sugden had provided a most delightful luncheon. Adjourned 11:30 P. M.—MRS. A. O. TREGANZA, *Secretary*.